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# Message Text

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66652
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---------- 091670
R 101620Z SEP 74
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 191333

FOR POLAD

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 191333 ACTION SECSTATE DATED 8/30/74.

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 191333

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS, KS
SUBJECT:ROK PROCUREMENT OF SWISS AA GUNS

JOINT STATE/DEFENSE MESSAGE

REFS: A. SEOUL 3358 B. CJUSMAG-K 14O746Z JUNE 74

1. REF A INDICATED PLANS ACQUIRE SIX SECTIONS (12 GUNS) OF OERLIKON 35MM AA GUNS FROM SWISS AND SAYS MND ANTICIPATES EVENTUAL REQUIREMENT FOR 4O SECTIONS. EXTRA-POLATION OF SIX SECTION COST WOULD RESULT IN $119.3 MILLION ESTIMATED EXPENDITURE FOR ENTIRE 4O SECTIONS IF ALL SHOULD BE PURCHASED FROM SWISS.

2. WE HAVE NO OBJECTION TO PURCHASE OF SIX SETS, WHICH ARE FOR PATROL BOATS ALREADY IN ROKG INVENTORY (SPECIFICALLY NOT FOR CPIC) AND REPRESENT ITEM UNAVAILABLE FROM US. REMAINING 34 SETS FOR THE ARMY POSE DIFFERENT
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PROBLEM RELATING TO US COMMERCIAL INTERESTS, MILITARY COMPATIBILITY AND CONGRESSIONAL RELATIONS.

3. RE 34 SETS FOR ARMY YOU SHOULD SAY CLEARLY TO ROKG THAT OUR COMMERCIAL INTERESTS LEAD US TO URGE THAT ROK DIRECT ITS CASH PURCHASES TO US SUPPLIERS WHEREVER POSSIBLE. DESPITE LONG PRODUCTION LEAD-TIMES AND HIGHER COSTS WE BELIEVE ROK SHOULD GIVE PRIORITY TO US SOURCES FOR COMMERCIAL MILITARY SALES. EQUIPMENT OF US ORIGIN IS COMPATIBLE WITH US DOCTRINE, TACTICS AND LOGISTICS SYSTEMS NOW USED BY ROK, AND OF A QUALITY AND RELIABILITY WE CAN VOUCH FOR. SWISS EQUIPMENT MAY NOT HAVE THESE ADVANTAGES. MOREOVER, YOU SHOULD INFORMALLY REMIND THE ROK THAT THIRD COUNTRY PROCUREMENT OF MAJOR ITEMS OR WEAPON SYSTEMS COULD WELL CAUSE PROBLEMS WITH CONGRESS. PURCHASE OF JUST SIX SECTIONS IS RELATIVELY MODEST, DOES NOT REQUIRE EXTENSIVE CASH OUTLAYS IN ANY GIVEN FISCAL YEAR, PROCURES ITEMS NOT IN THE US INVENTORY OR AVAILABLE FROM US SUPPLIERS, AND IS FOR USE ON PATROL CRAFT ALREADY IN ROKG INVENTORY. BUT PURCHASE OF ADDITIONAL 34 SECTIONS FOR ARMY GROUND DEFENSE ROLE COULD COME FROM US SUPPLIER. FOREIGN PURCHASES COULD IRRITATE SECTIONS OF CONGRESS WHICH CONTINUE TO BE FRIENDLY TOWARD AID TO KOREA AND ADD TO CONGRESSIONAL PROBLEMS. WE WOULD USE ROK PURCHASE IN US TO POINT OUT TO CONGRESSIONAL FRIENDS OF KOREA THAT ROK DOING ALL IT CAN TO REDUCE ITS DEPENDENCE UPON MAP AND US ASSISTANCE AND PROVIDE FOR ITSELF. THIS WOULD BE STRONG ARGUMENT TO USE TO URGE CONGRESS TO PROVIDE AID LEVELS WE HAVE REQUESTED FOR REMAINDER OF MOD PROGRAM.

4. IN ANY EVENT, SINCE OERLIKON IS A MODERNIZATION ITEM EXPENDITURES FOR THEIR PROCUREMENT WILL BE COUNTED TOWARD ACHIEVEMENT OF MOD PLAN. SUCH EXPENDITURES THEREFORE WILL BE SUBTRACTED FROM MOD PLAN FUNDING BALANCE. THIS IS IN LINE WITH ORIGINAL CONCEPT OF MOD PROGRAM. FYI: REF A AND C INDICATE THAT OERLIKON IS ALTERNATIVE TO CHAPPARAL. LATTER WAS INCLUDED IN KFRS IN 1973 AND INTENTION TO PROVIDE THAT MISSLE WAS INFORMALLY COMMUNICATED TO ROKG AT SCM MEETING IN SEOUL LAST YEAR. THEREFORE, ROKG SHOULD CONCEDE LOGIC OF DEDUCTING OERLIKON EXPENDITURE FROM MOD PLAN EXPENDITURE CEILING. END FYI
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5. THEREFORE, FOR REASONS STATED ABOVE (COMMERCIAL, MILITARY COMPATIBILITY AND CONGRESSIOAL), WE ASK ROK CAREFULLY CONSIDER QUESTION OF PURCHASE OF 34 ADDITIONAL OERLIKON SECTIONS.
INGERSOLL UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a
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**To:** SEOUL
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